



**CITY OF DANBURY  
FIRE DEPARTMENT  
19 NEW STREET  
DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810**

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Fire Chief**

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**FIRE CHIEF'S MONTHLY REPORT**

I hereby submit my report as Fire Chief of the Danbury Fire Department, which covers the period of February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016 through March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016 and details activities of the Department.

We would like to congratulate Rob Forbes on his recent promotion from Lieutenant to Captain of A-group. Rob began as a volunteer with Bethel and then Padanaram Hose Volunteer Company #3 in 1993, was hired as a firefighter in October of 1999, and promoted to Lieutenant in February of 2011. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from ECSU and is currently working toward an Associate degree in Fire Science Technology at Naugatuck Valley Community College. Additionally, he has earned several certifications from the National Fire Academy, CT Commission of Fire Prevention and Control, Department of Justice, and Homeland Security.

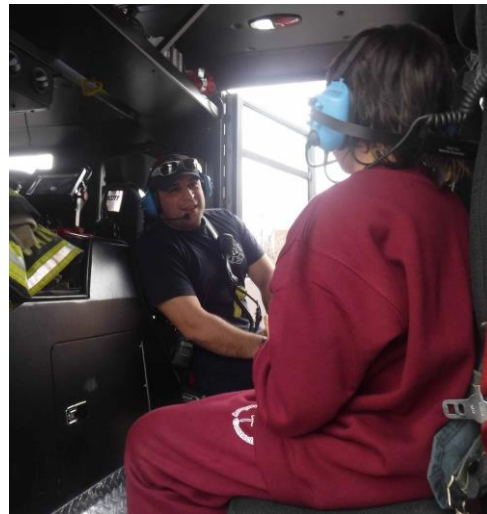


### **Public Education / Prevention / Public Relations**

Truck Company provided a Headquarters tour for a mother and her child. They also provided a work platform for FF Heering to perform alarm maintenance at Volunteer station #5. E23 toured the Dialysis Unit at 111 Osborne St. and preplanned Peacock Alley.

Engine 25 spent some time reviewing their district with a recent personnel transfer. 19 Main Street (Kimberly Place) was toured, with emphasis on elevator safety and rescue. 113 Mill Plain Road (Staples plaza) was toured. Airport work was conducted with emphasis on air field safety signage.

A special needs student at St Peter's School was visited by DC Meehan and Capt. Halas with members of the Truck Company. FF Rivera formed a bond with this student and all members had a great day.



### **Suppression / Response Activities of Note**

Crews were called to 92 E. Pembroke Rd. for a chimney fire. Although the fire was confined to the flue, the area involved was difficult to access. Crews used dry chem. from below and after removing the chimney cap, chains from the roof to effect extinguishment. Truck Company, E22, E25, Sq1 and C30 managed the incident.

A structure fire occurred at 14 Greenridge Rd. in a vacant house which was being remodeled. C33 responded to the scene, then continued to HQ for D/C cover assignment.

An MVA at the top of Downs St., which occurred on the exit from I84, was a fatal MVA involving three vehicles. The deceased was transported as a trauma code to Danbury Hospital ED. The accident cause was possibly due to medical reasons. There was heavy damage to two of the vehicles involved. Two additional victims were transported for evaluation with minor injuries. E25, E26, C30, 2 EMS units, DPD and CSPD managed the incident.

Crews responded to 25 West St., St. James Church, as a CO call with no symptoms. E22 metered elevated Carbon Monoxide levels which were sourced at the furnace. The furnace was shut down until it could be serviced.

A well involved house fire off Great Plain Road was extinguished quickly and efficiently by D platoon, with assistance of the volunteer Tankers, as well as Engine 10, Squad 7, and EMS.

Engine 22 with Lt. Mourges and crew had a dramatic cardiac arrest save with the assistance of a civilian with a public access defibrillator.



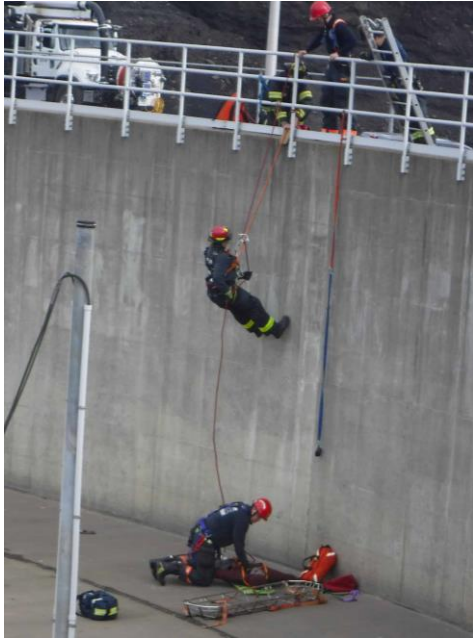
### **Command and Staff Activities**

- Interviews for Captain
- Volunteer Firemen's Council meeting
- Hiring rules meeting with Corp. Counsel
- Promotional swearing-in ceremony for Captain Rob Forbes
- Exchange Club meeting
- Stevens Street fire post-incident review
- Monthly Staff meeting
- Dispatch budget review
- Multiple discussions with Union officers
- Annual St. Patrick's day lunch at Engine #5
- Meeting for testing of Lieutenant and Communications Coordinator
- Volunteer Firemen's Ball at the Amber Room
- City Council meeting
- Dispatch oversight meetings with IXP and the PD
- Monthly EMS/Dispatch steering committee

### **Training – Training Officer Steve Rogers**

A large scale training exercise was conducted at the Public Works facility – Captain Halas choreographed an 'injured worker in a tank' scenario, with the help of members from Public Works/Utilities. A rescue manikin was placed at the bottom of a large holding tank, and members using many different skills; high angle, ropes, rigging, lifting systems, EMS, packaging, Truck Company utilizations, managed to rappel down

40 feet into the tank, package the manikin, and then using the ladder truck lift him out of the tank to safety.



### **Apparatus / Equipment – Superintendent Joe Cavo**

E-23 has front suction issues again. We have ordered a new 5 inch valve and will replace it when it arrives. We started the annual inspection of Truck-2 hoping to complete it so that that Truck-1 can go to Firematic for some warranty work which should take a week or so to complete. Unfortunately, the pump transmission in E-24 has had an issue which required its removal and overhaul. We have removed and disassembled the transmission, ordered parts, and are currently setting up for reassembly.

The Non Destructive Test (NDT) was performed on Old Truck-1 this month. As we projected, the corrosion and delaminating rust issues are a real concern, and as soon as we can get back to it, we will have it inspected by a representative from Pierce for some guidance.

Other repairs completed:

- Replaced Alternator 06FX1
- Replaced rear brake chambers and hoses E-26
- Replaced ABS modulating valve E-26
- Replaced turn signal switch Truck-2
- Replaced left front rotor and brake pads Truck-2
- Replaced EGR valve and boost sensor 10PA1
- Replaced Quick Release valve old Truck-1
- Repaired feet on smoke ejector
- Replaced door latch in Tac-1
- Started Fit Testing career division
- Removed pump transmission E-24



## **Community Risk Reduction Office of the Fire Marshal – Fire Marshal Jim Russell Staff**

Fire Inspectors Tyler Bergemann, Eric Handau, and Terry Timan will be completing the Fire Investigation portion of the State of Connecticut's Fire Marshal Certification Course on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Fire Inspectors Bergemann and Handau will be fully certified as Deputy Fire Marshals. Fire Inspector Timan will begin the Code Section of the course and will continue for about three months, going to Rocky Hill Fire Department three days each week. DFM John Osborne has started the Danbury Leadership Course, put on by the Danbury Chamber of Commerce. He will attend a one day class each month through December of this year.

### **Inspections**

This month we inspected 197 hotel rooms, 275 apartments, 47 misc. inspections, 9 liquor inspections, 24 places of assembly, 30 businesses, 4 day care, and 6 educational occupancies. There were 3 health care inspections and 27 mercantile inspections. We will increase our numbers as our staff rebuilds to full strength.

### **Plan Reviews**

Our team continues to spend time doing plan reviews. This month we spent 42 hours reviewing plans for several store fit outs in the Danbury Fair Mall, the Danbury High School Fire Alarm System, and retail establishments at 72 Newtown Rd.

### **Fire Investigations**

This month we had 6 building fires, 1 vehicle fire, and 4 rubbish/garbage/grass/other types of fires. Investigations were done on all fires.

### **Poster Contest**

The Connecticut Fire Prevention Poster Contest began on October 1, 2015. We have a hard act to follow after having the State Winner in last year's contest. We have been notified that we have a County Winner, Kira Stone, from Shelter Rock School. Kira, her parents, Art Teacher Mrs. Donna Gagliardi, and the Principal will all be invited to a luncheon in Hartford on March 31<sup>st</sup>. At the luncheon, the State Winner will be chosen.

### **Fatal Fire**

On March 2<sup>nd</sup>, the City of Danbury suffered its first fatal fire in many years. The fire happened in a 3 family home on Stevens St. The owner had been cited for violations three months earlier during an inspection. A 91 year old woman perished in the fire. An 86 year old man and a 68 year old woman were badly burned and were taken to Danbury Hospital, and then Bridgeport Burn Center. The investigation continues at this time.

## **Department Statistical Reports**

### **Community Risk Reduction**

Monthly inspections	623
Abatements issued	2

Violations issued	4
Complaints	8
Fire Investigations	6
Fire Safety Programs	7

Public Safety Answering Point

Total 911 calls	2529
Cellular 911 calls	1737
Abandoned 911 calls	256
Admin calls received	784